



VILLAGE CHAPEL
PRESBYTERIAN

"THE VILLAGER" – APRIL 2024

SECOND CHANCE AT THE CAMINO!

As many of you know, I intended to hike a portion of the Camino de Santiago in Spain as part of my sabbatical. I had my route planned out, my airline tickets purchased, and my gear gathered ... and then COVID shut everything down. I postponed for a year, but American were still barred from Spain, so I pivoted and hiked 400 miles on the Appalachian Trail!

It was wonderful, but I was still saddened that I'd missed out on the Camino.

Then Columbia Theological Seminary announced "Preachers on Pilgrimage"! My application was accepted and I'll be one of 16 pastors hiking from San Sabastian in the Basque region to Bilbao along the Northern route, and then after a bus ride, from Vialba to Santiago de Compostela!

I'll fly out of Yeager on May 28 and back in late on June 12. In between we'll hike just over 150 miles along coastal cliffs and through quaint villages before attending a special pilgrim's mass in the Cathedral of St. James!

While I'm gone, Nellie Howard and Sallie Daugherty will preach and plans are afoot to show the movie "The Way" which depicts a father walking the Camino in homage to his son. It'll give you a taste of what I'll be experiencing.

Please keep me in your prayers.

ENVELOPE CAMPAIGN

Thanks to your support of the Envelope Campaign, (the total so far is \$10,384, we have scheduled the roofer to come and begin repairing the roof and replacing the shingles on the sanctuary! This will require removing the steeple since we believe that the leaks are the result of rotting wood underneath the steeple. The session will take up the decision on whether to replace the steeple at a later date. The roofer will also replace the roofing on the fellowship hall, the kitchen, and the educational building, a necessary step before we install solar panels.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

On Sunday, April 7, we joyfully welcomed **Bob and Patty Pogue, Matt and Raechel Chambers, and Cindy Sloan** into membership at Village! When asked, "Why Village?", they answered that the congregation made them feel so welcome that it instantly felt like home!



WORSHIP NOTES



Join us in person or virtually for worship during April and May

April 28		John 15:1-8
May 5		Acts 10:34-48
May 12	Ascension Sunday	Luke 24:44-53
May 19	Pentecost	John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
May 26	Trinity Sunday	John 3:1-17

HELP US CELEBRATE!

The 75th Anniversary Committee is at work! As a part of our celebration of the 50th Anniversary back in 2000, I wrote a brief history "Remember - Rejoice - Renew" in which I attempted to document people and events occurring in those first fifty years. I would like to update this history and need your help! Please identify one or more events in the life of our Church that you believe should be included. You are welcome to go as far back into the history for what has been a meaningful or significant event but we are particularly interested in content from the time frame 2000 - to the present. Just write a summary of this event or events, and identify the time frame, individual(s) involved, and why it is important to our history and get this to me by May 15th.

Also, as a component of our 60th Anniversary celebration, I prepared a slide show portraying our congregation engaged in a wide variety of activities. We plan to modify and expand it for the 75th Anniversary. We need your help with this project too! If you have pictures of activities, particularly those since the year 2000, please make a copy available to me identifying the persons in the picture, the approximate date the picture was taken, and what it is portraying. These can involve individuals or groups, in-house activities or community outreach.

Pictures and/or written materials can be emailed to me at sbowles@ucwv.edu or given to me or to Leslie Bremar in person. We look forward to hearing from you and receiving your contribution to these important activities to celebrate our Village Chapel history!!

Sandy Bowles

GAME DAY FELLOWSHIP

Do you enjoy eating, chatting and playing board games? If you do, then come join us following worship the 28th. A variety of new games were introduced and enjoyed last month. If you have a favorite game you want to share, bring it along. Just remember our gathering is for all ages to enjoy during this time of fellowship.



DIRECTORY UPDATES

Sunday, April 28th stop by and visit with **Kathy Kruk** in the fellowship hall **following worship** to update your information in our Membership Directory. You'll also be able to have a **new picture taken**, learn about the best ways to access the directory (**a new app for your phone and table**), and get on the list to request a printed copy once all updates are made. Kathy will be available at a table for the following Sundays. If you can't get to one of these events, please call or email Leslie to update your info!



We would love to make sure we have your best contact information!

BLUESTONE SUMMER CAMP

Summer Camp Registration is open now ([click here](#))!
June 16-23
June 23-30
June 30-July 7
For more information, [click here](#)!



COMMUNION

We'll be celebrating communion on May 5th and May 19th. While the first date is our regular first Sunday of the month, the second is Pentecost, 50 days after Easter, and the day celebrated as the birthday of the Church! As always, communion is a chance to draw close to God and to one another!



Pentecost Offering

Every year we receive the Pentecost Offering which is focused on ministries with Young Adults, youth, and children at risk. The session has decided that the 40% of the offering which stays local will go to Hope Center, a ministry of First Charleston helping youth transitioning out of foster care. (For more information go to <https://firstpresby.com/outreach/hope-center/>) Please give as generously as you are able.

The Pentecost Offering supports our ministries with children and youth.



Join Us! When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!
April 1-May 19

PENTECOST OFFERING
OFFERING OF THE CHURCH OF THE SOUTH

GUNS TO GARDENS

Charleston's Guns to Gardens event is on May 4th at St Marks United Methodist Church from 1-3pm. We appreciate Village Chapel's financial and physical help with this effort! In the VC Newsletters, I've talked about what GtoG is and how the day will flow. Today, I thought I'd offer a couple "surrender stories" because they explain why we've felt this event is so important.

A grandmother arrives at a GtoG event with 17 guns. She had been keeping them under her couch and was so grateful to be able to move them out of the house. Who knows where she got all those guns the event was glad to help her reform the guns into garden tools.

Just last week, I was presenting GtoG to a group. Afterward, a woman told me that her husband passed away 17 years ago. He owned several guns which she gave to their sons. Two weeks ago, one of her sons found 2 more guns in her house! She had no idea they were there all that time. She will talk to her sons but was intrigued about the idea of reforming the guns into tools, art or jewelry.

Again, thank you for your support and we'll report back after May 4th. Peace, Sarah Gottlieb

NEW EASTER PARAMENTS

This year we added two new paraments to our Easter splendor – a table cover and pulpit scarf designed and created by Amy Parker. They consist of a cutwork design (cut into stiff "crinoline" fabric with an Xacto knife), overlaid on a spring green background. They are adorned with lilies (also made with the crinoline fabric). The lilies were fashioned from the handprints of the children of the church. Many thanks to the children's Sunday School teachers who gathered the handprints so many of our children could contribute to this project.



SERVICE WEEKEND 2024



**BLOOD
DRIVE**
Wednesday
May 15th



Let Your **LIGHT** Shine

June 17-18, 20-21, 2024 6 - 8 PM

You are the light of the world... so let your light shine before others!



**Village
Arts
Camp**

Sunburst Tie Dying, Lanterns,
Candle-making, Suncatchers,
Fireflies, Yoga, & Snacks!

**Friday Night Party
at Greenbrier Pool!**

Contact Tara Markham, Sharon Richardson,
or Amy Parker for more info
or to be a volunteer!

**Bluestone
Getaways**

For more info on Guys weekend on April 26th, visit <https://bluestonecamp.org/guys-weekend/>

For more info on the Spring Getaway on May 3rd, visit <https://bluestonecamp.org/spring-getaway/>

PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS ON THESE DATES:

MAY

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Peyton Panger | 16 Angie Price |
| 2 Don Parker | 17 Greg Rader |
| 3 Amy Parker | 18 Terri Rader |
| 4 Tory Parker | 19 Sharon Richardson |
| 5 David Parks | 20 Jay Rorrer |
| 6 Heather Parks | 21 Janet Rorrer |
| 7 Kristen Parks | 22 Kelsey Rorrer |
| 8 Katie Parks | 23 Samantha Rorrer |
| 9 Allyson Peck | 24 Abigail Rorrer |
| 10 Ben Peck | 25 Alyssa Rorrer |
| 11 Carolyn Perrine | 26 David Salisbury |
| 12 Robert Pogue | 27 Howard Salisbury |
| 13 Patricia Pogue | 28 Patti Salisbury |
| 14 James Powell | 29 Glen Savage |
| 15 Maggie Powell | 30 Jill Burford |
| | 31 Michael Schiano |

PRAYER CHAIN

An important part of our caring for each other is the **Prayer Chain**.

Please let **Betsy White** (betsywhite06@yahoo.com) know of any prayer concerns you may have.

You may also contact Leslie Bremar in the church office (**304-925-7265** or leslie@vcpresby.org). Leslie will direct your prayer request to Betsy.

If you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain, please contact the office.

TOILET PAPER DONATIONS NEEDED!

As part of Village Chapel's Ministry to Common Grounds, we donate toilet paper for those less fortunate. The Presbyterian Women have set the second Sunday of every month the official donation Sunday for toilet paper. You can just bring your donation with you to Church and place it in the specified area at the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

NURTURING FAITH IDEAS



I have a plant on my desk that came with clear instructions on how to nurture it – optimum sunlight, water, and temperature. 'Wouldn't it be nice to have similar information to help us nurture our own faith ... or that of our children or grandchildren? Well, the Presbytery of WV is providing weekly ideas for nurturing faith.

April 21: Read Psalm 23

Shepherds take care of their sheep by seeing that the sheep have the food and water they need. When the sheep are threatened or are in danger, the shepherd uses a staff and rod to protect and rescue them. The psalmist sings of God as the shepherd of the psalmist. Think of yourself as one of God's sheep; how has God cared for you?

April 28: Read 1 John 4:7-21

God is love and commands us to love one another. We live in love rather than fear because God abides in us. Are there fears or anxieties that hinder you from loving freely and boldly? In what specific ways are you called to show the love of God to someone else this week?

May 5: Read John 15:9-17

Jesus commands the disciples to love one another sacrificially. How much would you give up for the sake of a friend? What does the "complete joy" of Christ mean to you, and how do you share it with someone else?

May 12: Read John 17:6-19

Jesus prays that God would protect the friends that he is sending into the world. Are these impulses at odds with one another- staying safe and serving in the wider world? What risks are you willing to take to speak truth to those who would rather not hear it?

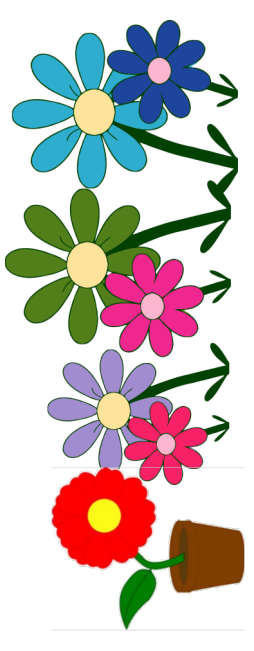
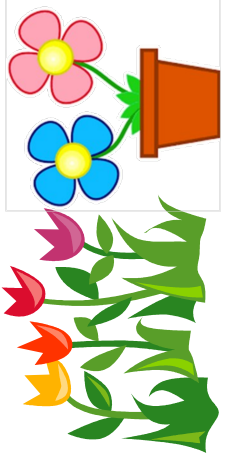
May 19: Read Ezekiel 37:1-14

Ezekiel prophesied to the dry bones, and the Holy Spirit swept over the valley to breathe new life where there had been none. Is there a part of your faith life that feels "dry"? How are you praying the Holy Spirit would renew your church community?

May 26: Read Psalm 29

This psalm describes the voice of the Lord like a powerful storm that blows over the land and inspires the people to worship. When did you last simply sit in stillness and listen to the rain? What do you hear the voice of the Lord saying to you right now?

STATISTICAL REPORT	4/21/24	4/14/24	4/7/24	3/31/24	3/24/24
In-Person Attendance	42	47	56	104	57
Non-Pledged	\$40	\$755	\$115	\$1,071	\$100
Pledged Contribution	\$2,190	\$2,320	\$6,245	\$5,695.60	\$4,000
Miscellaneous Income	\$451.79	\$2,017	\$2,883	\$4,834.50	\$938.02
Total Contributions	\$2,681.79	\$5,092	\$9,243	\$11,601.10	\$5,038.02



MAY 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

May Birthdays: 2 - Tim Hoff; 3 - Kate Forman; 14 - Lynne Slamick; 15 - Terra Hoff; 17 - Sara Slamick; 19 - Candy Hawley, David Dawson, Doug Curnutte; 20 - John Fleck; 23 - Anthony Falbo; 24 - Max Falbo; 25 - David Parks; 31 - Jeff Smith

5	9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:15 PM Choir Practice	6	10:00 AM Bridge	7		8	7:30 AM Rotary Club 7:00 PM Stewardship Team Meeting	9	10:00 AM PW Circle	10	7:00 PM NA Group	11	
12	HAPPY Mother's DAY 9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Fellowship Time	13	10:00 AM Bridge	14	 7:00 PM Choir Practice	15	7:00 PM Session BLOOD DRIVE	16	PWV Meeting 12:00 PM PW Luncheon	17	7:00 PM NA Group	18	
19	9:45 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship 12:15 AM Choir Practice	20	10:00 AM Bridge	21		22	7:30 AM Rotary Club	23	Newsletter 10 AM Book Club	24	7:00 PM NA Group	25	
26	11 AM Worship 12 PM Fellowship	27	 Office Closed MEMORIAL DAY	28		29		30		31			